Home Again

A 10-year plan to end homelessness in Portland and Multnomah County

Annual Update: January - December, 2008

In December 2004, the City of Portland and Multnomah County launched a 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. The plan is built on three principles: focus on the most chronically homeless populations, streamline access to existing services to prevent and reduce other homelessness, and concentrate resources on programs that offer measurable results. The three principles are inherent in each of nine action steps. In order to achieve them, the community, with oversight from the Coordinating Committee to End Homelessness, identifies measurable annual goals. Goals below were to be met by the end of 2008.

Cumulative 4 year results – January 2005-December 2008*

- **1,795** Homeless families housed
- **1,923** Chronically homeless persons moved into housing
- **2,348** Other homeless households moved into housing
- **1,394** Permanent supportive housing units opened or in development

63% of 10-year plan's supportive housing goal achieved (goal=2,200 units)

2008 Goals & Outcomes:

	Goals	12-month results: January - December	Status
1. Move people into housing first	400 chronically homeless people will move into permanent housing with supportive services. Of these, 30 will be ages 24 & younger. Retention: 75% will remain housed 6 months after placement and 65% will remain housed after one year.	**515 chronically homeless people** moved into permanent housing with supportive services. Of these, 29 were ages 24 & younger. Of those contacted who were placed in housing more than 6 months ago, 83.7% were still in housing after 6 months and 72.7% after one year.	★
	300 homeless families with children will move into permanent housing. Of these, 150 will be high resource users. Retention: 75% will remain housed 6 months after placement and 65% will remain housed after one year.	**285 homeless families with children** moved into permanent housing. Of these, 89 families were high resource users. Of those contacted who were placed in housing more than 6 months ago, 91% were still in housing after 6 months and 88% after one year.	🕘
	550 homeless households, in couples or unaccompanied, will move into permanent housing (neither chronically homeless nor accompanied by children.) Retention: 75% will remain housed 6 months after placement and 65% will remain housed after one year.	**659 other homeless households**, unaccompanied adults or couples (neither chronically homeless nor accompanied by children), moved into permanent housing. Of those contacted who were placed in housing more than 6 months ago, 87% were still in housing after 6 months and 78% after one year.	★
2. Stop discharging people into homelessness	725 persons will successfully transition from psychiatric institutions or corrections into stable housing, reducing mental health discharge to streets or shelter.	**518** adults with severe and persistent mental illness were provided stable housing, including structured, 24/7 staffed residential housing; 370/Aid & Assist patients from Oregon State Hospital/Justice Center; Oregon State Hospital patients; Bridgeview; Royal Palm; and others.	🕘

★Exceeded goal ✓Achieved/On schedule 🕘Still collecting data or behind schedule

	Goals	12-month results: January - December	Status
3. Improve outreach to homeless people	Expand outreach and scope of 2008 Portland Homeless Connect events to connect more people to services and engage the community in funding and volunteering.	February's PHC event was a success, serving more than 1,000 people and engaging more than 400 volunteers and donors. The August event saw more than 500 volunteers serving 900 people in need.	✓
4. Emphasize permanent solutions	600 households will be prevented from becoming homeless through provision of rent assistance. After rent assistance ends, 80% will remain housed after 6 months, and 70% at one year.	**682** households were prevented from becoming homeless through support from multiple agencies and funding from the Short-Term Rent Assistance (STRA) fund. 90**%** remained housed after 6 months, and 82**%** at one year.	★
5. Increase supply of permanent supportive housing	120 new units of permanent supportive housing will be added to the development pipeline (85 for chronically homeless persons and 35 for homeless families). 75 units will be added to the pipeline through rent and operating subsidies.	**378** units of permanent supportive housing for individuals and families were added to the development pipeline. Of these, 203 units were added through acquisition and rehabilitation. The balance, 175 units, is existing affordable housing re-programmed as permanent supportive housing units through rent and operating subsidies.	★
6. Create innovative new partnerships to end homelessness	130 homeless adults who are chronic street crime offenders will be offered comprehensive services including chemical dependency treatment, permanent housing placement and other supports.	134 individuals were served through the SCT collaboration and offered comprehensive services including chemical dependency treatment, transitional and permanent housing placement and other support services.	★
	Create Home Again Fund to be overseen by the Home Again Commission and develop funding plans and goals.	Due to staffing reductions, this goal was not achieved. However, there are plans to revive the Commission in 2009.	🕘
7. Make the rent assistance system more effective	The Schools Family Housing Initiative will prevent homelessness for 80 families in neighborhoods with increasing housing prices and declining school enrollments.	Schools Family Housing prevented homelessness for 95 families during the first quarter of 2008 -- 48 families in Jan-March and 47 families that received continuing rent assistance from the end of 2007.	★
8. Increase economic opportunity for homeless people	120 chronically homeless people will be qualified for Social Security disability, Medicaid and other benefits, enabling them to secure permanent housing, healthcare, and more.	Client enrollment began in March. **324** people were assessed, with **125** cases enrolled into BEST; **59** claims submitted, **40** awards, **6** denials and **13** awaiting determination. Average time between application submission and award is **42** days.	🕘
9. Implement new data collection technology throughout the homeless system	Ensure that 75% of beds for homeless persons are included within community-wide Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).	Goal achieved. 75% of beds for homeless persons are included in HMIS.	✓

★Exceeded goal ✓Achieved/On schedule 🕘Still collecting data or behind schedule

* Cumulative results of homeless persons housed are HMIS-reported numbers only. Not all providers began collecting HMIS data in 2005 and 2006. Other data collection took place and is not represented here. Individual yearly results may not add to total cumulative numbers.